

Appln No. 09/363,121

Amdt date October 20, 2003

Reply to Office action of August 12, 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The above identified patent application has been amended and reconsideration and reexamination are hereby requested.

Claims 1 and 2 are now in the application. Claims 1 and 2 have been amended.

The Examiner has designated the present Office Action as "Final". However, the Applicant believes that the present Office Action should not be designated "Final" since this is a first office action of a Request for Continued Examination. As such, the Applicant requests that, in any event, the finality of the present office action be withdrawn.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as not being reasonably enabled for the intended range of thicknesses.

The Applicant has amended Claim 1 to call for (underlining added for emphasis) ... T_d / T_h is within the ranges of either $0.9 \leq T_d / T_h < 1$ or $1 < T_d / T_h \leq 1.36$ where T_d is an approximate thickness of the inner graphite layer along each rounded inside corner tangentially joining adjacent cone walls of the rectangular cone portion, and T_h is an approximate thickness of the inner graphite layer disposed on inside horizontal walls of the cone portion.

The Applicant has amended Claim 2 to call for (underlining added for emphasis) ... wherein the inner graphite layer satisfies the following condition: T_d / T_v is within the ranges of either $0.9 \leq T_d / T_v < 1$ or $1 < T_d / T_v \leq 1.36$ where T_d is an approximate thickness of the inner graphite layer along each rounded inside corner tangentially joining adjacent cone walls

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of the rectangular cone portion, and T_v is an approximate thickness of the inner graphite layer disposed on inside vertical walls of the cone portion.

Accordingly, the Applicant submits that amended Claims 1 and 2 find support in the Specification such that one reasonably skilled in the art would be able to practice the invention without undue experimentation.

While the Examiner has noted that both the general installation of a CRT inner graphite layer and its being applied "uniformly" (i.e., a thickness ratio, such as T_d/T_h or T_d/T_v , being = 1) were well known to those skilled in the art, a specific optimum range above and below 1 had not previously been developed. However, the Applicant has found such an optimum range, namely, a choice within either a first range less than 1 or in a second range greater than 1. Further, the Applicant submits that these optimum ranges are clearly set forth in the Specification at page 9, line 20, through page 10, line 9. wherein it states:

"In the CRT structured as in the above, since the thickness ratio T_d / T_h or T_d / T_v is 0.9 - 1.36, the inner graphite layer 18 has suitable characteristics. That is, if the thickness ration T_d / T_h or T_d / T_h becomes less than 0.9, the inner graphite layer does not uniformly transmit the high voltage because of the thin deposition on the corners relative to the inside wall. Further, if the thickness ratio T_d / T_h or T_d / T_v becomes more than 1.36, the inner graphite layer is thicker on the corners than on the inside walls such that the resistance of the inner graphite layer 18 increases, causing a

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reduction in the voltage level supplied to the panel 4 and the accelerating electrode 32.

The above conditions of the thickness ratio of the inner graphite layer are based on the results of several tests and simulations, which show the transmission efficiency of voltage is optimized when the thickness of the inner graphite layer meet the conditions."

Reiterating the Applicant's arguments in response to the previous office action, the presently amended Claims 1 and 2 call for specific predetermined thickness ratios that are not per se = 1.

The Applicant submits that those skilled in the art, using well known graphite layer application techniques, could without undue experimentation practice the Applicant's invention such that T_d / T_h is within the ranges of either $0.9 \leq T_d / T_h < 1$ or $1 < T_d / T_h \leq 1.36$, as called for in Claim 1, or that T_d / T_v is within the ranges of either $0.9 \leq T_d / T_v < 1$ or $1 < T_d / T_v \leq 1.36$, as called for in Claim 2.

Accordingly, in view of the above amendment and remarks it is submitted that the claims are patentably distinct over the prior art and that all the rejections to the claims have been overcome and that the Application is in condition for allowance.

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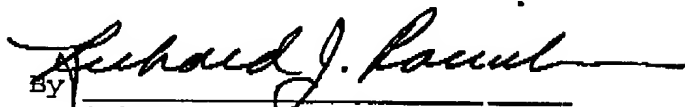
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In view of the above, reconsideration and reexamination of the above Application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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